



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Ralph T. Brunner and Peter Graffagnino  
APPLICATION NO.: 10/017,674  
FILING DATE: December 14, 2001  
TITLE: Rendering Translucent Layers in a Display System  
EXAMINER: Not yet known  
GROUP ART UNIT: 2672  
ATTY. DKT. NO.: 18602-06593 (P2305C)

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date shown below:

Dated: March 22, 2002

By: 

Amir H. Raubvogel, Reg. No. 37,070

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, DC. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**Under 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97-98**

SIR:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97-98, enclosed herewith is modified form PTO-1449 listing references for consideration by the Examiner.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation regarding the completeness of the list of references, or that inclusion of a reference in this list is an admission that it is prior art or is pertinent to this application, or that a search has been made, or as an admission that the information listed is, or may be considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists, and shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

- ☒ within three months of the filing date of the application, or date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits, whichever event last occurred;
- ☐ before the mailing of a first official action after the filing of a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114;

- ☐ after three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage in an international application, or after the mailing date of the first official action on the merits, whichever event last occurred, but before the mailing date of the first to occur of either: (1) a final action under 37 CFR §1.113; or (2) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and:
  - ☐ attached hereto is the fee set forth under 37 CFR §1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(c); OR
  - ☐ Applicant certifies pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e) that:
    - ☐ each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement; OR
    - ☐ no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated under 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement;
- ☐ before the payment of the issue fee but after the mailing date of the first to occur of either: (1) a final action under 37 CFR § 1.113; or (2) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and:
  - ☐ Applicant certifies pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97(e) that:
    - ☐ each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement; or
    - ☐ no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this

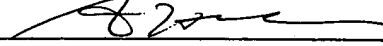
certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated under 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement; AND

- ☐ attached hereto is the fee set forth under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(c); OR
- ☐ after the payment of the issue fee. Applicant request that the information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement be placed in the file according to 37 CFR § 1.97(i), although the information may not be considered by the USPTO.
- ☒ This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application No. 09/309,171, filed on May 10, 1999, and the references cited therein are hereby referenced, but are not required to be provided in this application under 37 CFR § 1.98(d).
- ☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR § 1.704(d).
- ☒ Applicant submits that no fee is required for the consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Consideration of the listed references and favorable action are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ralph T. Brunner and Peter Graffagnino

Dated: March 22, 2002

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Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449  
(REV. 6-89)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAttorney's Docket No.  
18602-06593 (P2305C)Serial No.  
10/017,674**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant  
Ralph T. Brunner and Peter GraffagninoFiling Date  
December 14, 2001Group Art Unit  
2672**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,877,762	03-02-99	Young	345	344	
	5,831,628	11-03-98	Shimizu	345	435	
	5,638,499	06-10-97	O'Connor, et al.	395	131	
	5,594,467	01-14-97	Marlton et al.	345	115	
	5,499,327	03-12-96	Satoh	395	135	
	5,428,724	06-27-95	Silverbrook	395	135	
	4,780,709	10-25-88	Randall	340	721	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	EP 0 775 971	05-28-97	Europe	G06T	1/20		

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Blinn, James F., "A Ghost in a Snowstorm", <u>IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications</u> , January/February 1998, pp. 79-89
	Blinn, James F., "Three Wrongs Make a Right", <u>IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications</u> , November 1995, pp 90-93
	Blinn, James F., "Composting, Part 2: Practice", <u>IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications</u> , November 1994, pp. 78-82
	Blinn, James F., "Composting, Part 1: Theory", <u>IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications</u> , September 1994, pp. 83-87
	Porter, Thomas & Duff, Tom, "Compositing Digital Images", <u>Computer Graphics</u> , Vol. 18, Number 3, July 1984, pp. 49-55

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if references considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.  
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.PTO-1449  
REV: 02/01

18602/06593/DOCS/1255806.1